9TH GRADE TIMELINE

SEPTEMBER  ALL ABOUT HIGH SCHOOL
Learn about what you need to do to graduate and how to be successful in high school.

OCTOBER  BENEFITS OF GOING TO COLLEGE
Explore the benefits of going to college and learn how a college degree or certificate can help you get a job.

NOVEMBER  TYPES OF COLLEGES / ALL ABOUT APPRENTICESHIPS
Discover the different types of colleges and training options there are to choose from.

DECEMBER  BUILDING YOUR COLLEGE PROFILE
Focus on doing well in high school, staying organized and getting involved in activities.

JANUARY  PICKING THE RIGHT HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES
Talk to your counselor, family and friends about your post-high school plans.

FEBRUARY  ALL ABOUT COLLEGE BOUND / THE COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP PLEDGE
If you signed up, learn about the College Bound Scholarship and the Pledge.

MARCH  COLLEGE AND CAREER CONNECTIONS
Understand how what you study in college can get you the job of your dreams.

APRIL  WAYS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE
Learn about different types of money that can help you pay for college.

Need help with our terms? See the glossary on our websites:
High school is a time to build your skills and explore your interests to prepare you for life after high school. In order to graduate there are requirements you must meet and it’s important to become familiar with them.

**WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL?**

**Earn required credits** – Students in Washington State must complete a minimum of 24 credits to graduate from high school for the Class of 2019 and beyond. However, your high school may have slightly different credit requirements. You must take a certain amount of credits in specific subjects, such as four credits of English.

**Meet standard on state assessments** – You must take and pass state assessments in English language arts, math and science or take and meet standard on a variety of state-approved alternatives.

**Complete your High School and Beyond Plan** – Starting in 7th or 8th grade you will create a plan to help you think about your future and choose classes that prepare you for your goals after high school.

**TIPS:**

- What you do in high school can influence your future
- Pay attention in class and keep track of your grades
- Use a planner to stay organized and write down assignments, due dates and other responsibilities
- Don’t be afraid to ask for help. Be an advocate for yourself and ask for support from your counselors, teachers, family members and mentors.

**SOME SCHOOLS HAVE ADDITIONAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Check with your school counselor to see if you have any other requirements to earn your diploma.

**Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)** – The College Bound Scholarship and many school districts require at least a 2.0 GPA to graduate. The higher your GPA, the more college and scholarship options you will have available.

**Service learning** – You may need to complete service learning hours, where you give back to the community and reflect on your experience.

**SEPT: GRADE 9 and 10**
A college **degree** will help you get higher-paying jobs and get hired faster. Getting a college degree or certificate may be the best thing you can do for your future.

**WHY SHOULD I GO TO COLLEGE?**

Washington state has the 7th fastest growing economy in the U.S. There will be **740,000 job openings** in this state in the next 5 years (Boston Consulting Group & Washington Roundtable, 2016).

By 2020, **70% of ALL jobs** in Washington will require at least some college education (Carnevale, Smith & Strohl, 2015).

**99% of new jobs** between 2010 and 2016 went to people with more than a high school education (Carnevale, Jayasundera, & Gulish, 2016).

Young professionals with a high school diploma are **3 times more likely** to be unemployed than young professionals with a **Bachelor’s degree** (Taylor, Fry & Oates, 2014).

**GET A BETTER JOB FASTER**

Less than High school: $26,780

High school graduate: $37,336

Some college or associate’s degree: $41,548

Bachelor’s degree: $61,828

Advanced degree (master’s professional and doctoral degrees): $75,452


**MAKE MORE MONEY**

There is a growing, **massive wage gap** between college-educated and less-educated young professionals (Taylor, Fry & Oates, 2014).

Young adults with an **associate’s degree** earn an average of **$5,000 more per year** than those with a high school diploma (Kena et al., 2016).

**91% of “career jobs”** in Washington State (jobs that require higher skills and pay $60,000 to $100,000 per year) will be filled by workers with a college degree or some college (Boston Consulting Group & Washington Roundtable, 2016).

**WHAT YOU STUDY IN COLLEGE MATTERS.** Some degrees are in higher demand and lead to careers with higher pay. Currently, degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), health and business lead to the highest entry level pay.

**AVG. INCOME BY EDUCATION LEVEL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Average Income Per Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than High school</td>
<td>$26,780</td>
</tr>
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<td>High school graduate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced degree (master’s professional and doctoral degrees)</td>
<td>$75,452</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**GOOD TO KNOW:**

What you study in college matters. Some degrees are in higher demand and lead to careers with higher pay. Currently, degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), health and business lead to the highest entry level pay.
WHERE SHOULD I GO FOR COLLEGE?

Public and Private 4-year College/University

These schools offer bachelor’s degrees, usually completed in 4 years of full-time study. Private schools typically charge a higher tuition but can offer a significant amount of scholarships to make attendance affordable. Students that graduate from these schools can become a robotics engineer, business analyst, or nutritionist.

Make sure to review ANY school’s accreditation and job placement rates.

This chart shows common characteristics for each type of college in Washington state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selectivity</th>
<th>Community and Technical Colleges</th>
<th>Public 4-year Colleges</th>
<th>Private 4-year Colleges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All require an application. Moderate and highly selective colleges typically require applicants to submit essays, grades, test scores and other components.</td>
<td>Least selective</td>
<td>Moderate to highly selective</td>
<td>Moderate to highly selective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus Size</th>
<th>Community and Technical Colleges</th>
<th>Public 4-year Colleges</th>
<th>Private 4-year Colleges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>number of undergraduate students</td>
<td>5,000-30,000</td>
<td>Over 10,000</td>
<td>Less than 5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuition</th>
<th>Community and Technical Colleges</th>
<th>Public 4-year Colleges</th>
<th>Private 4-year Colleges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition per year for full-time enrollment (for local residents)</td>
<td>Low (around $4,000)</td>
<td>Medium ($7,000-$11,000)</td>
<td>High (over $30,000)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate Degrees Offered</th>
<th>Community and Technical Colleges</th>
<th>Public 4-year Colleges</th>
<th>Private 4-year Colleges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certificates and associate’s degrees (AA, AAS)</td>
<td>Bachelor degrees (BA or BS)</td>
<td>Bachelor degrees (BA or BS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In an apprenticeship, you can earn money while learning through a combination of hands-on, on-the-job training (OJT) and related academic classes. Apprenticeships are competitive and rigorous, and are typically more demanding than internships.

WHAT JOB CAN I GET AS AN APPRENTICE?

Apprenticeships are available in a variety of industries, such as aerospace, advanced manufacturing, construction, energy and marine technology. Examples of careers include:

- Aircraft mechanic
- Automotive mechanic
- Bricklayer
- Carpenter
- Cement mason
- Electrician
- Fire fighter
- Plumber
- Truck driver
- Welder

HOW MUCH WOULD I GET PAID?

Apprentices earn money while in the program; the pay increases as they progress. Upon graduation, they become “journey-level” workers.

Starting apprentice – minimum $18/hr + benefits (e.g. medical, dental and vision)
- For example, Seattle City Light apprentices earn at least $30/hr to start.

Journey-level worker (apprenticeship graduate) – minimum $30/hr + benefits (e.g. medical, dental, vision and retirement)
- For example, King County plumbers and pipe fitters earn around $77/hr while cement masons in Yakima earn $40/hr.

HOW DO I BECOME AN APPRENTICE?

1. Make sure you meet the requirements. Generally, these include:
   - High school diploma
   - Specified abilities (may require math)
   - Valid driver’s license and reliable transportation

2. Find a program and apply.
   - Each program has unique procedures for applying.
   - To learn more about the process, talk to your high school counselor or visit apprenticeship.lni.wa.gov

Colleges don’t only consider your grades. They want applicants who contribute to the campus community. Specific activities can make you a more competitive applicant and help you build your work resume. They can also be used in your high school and beyond plan that is required for high school graduation.

WHAT KIND OF ACTIVITIES SHOULD I PURSUE?
- Athletics
- College access programs
- Community service
- Faith-based/religious programs
- Family responsibilities
- Jobs or internships
- Music, drama and arts
- Summer programs
- School clubs
- Student government

WHAT IS AN ACTIVITIES LOG/RESUME
Some applications require an activities log/resume. This list of your extracurricular activities provides a sense of your involvement outside of school. You should also include a short description of your involvement for each activity.

start to keep track...
- Robotics club
  - president
- mechanic internship from Jan to March ’17
- wood club leader

GOOD TO KNOW:
The level of commitment and leadership in your activities matter more in the admission review process than the number of activities.

NO TIME?
Colleges understand that many students have work, family and other responsibilities. Many applications include a section where you can write about yourself or your circumstances. For example, many students need to work multiple jobs to support their family. This is considered leadership.

Keep in mind: Your activities log/resume can also be useful when you apply for scholarships and jobs.
GETTING READY: PICKING THE RIGHT HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

WHAT CLASSES SHOULD I TAKE?

The classes you take in high school prepare you for your post high school plans. Whether you choose to pursue an apprenticeship or a technical, 2-year, or 4-year college, you will want to learn their admission requirements.

MATH IS IMPORTANT:

- Most college programs require you to take some math. Taking more math in high school may mean taking less math in college.
- Over 50% of high school graduates are not ready for college-level classes.
- Taking four years of high school math will help you get ready for college and can help you save on tuition costs!

THINGS TO KNOW:

- Your high school graduation requirements may not be the same as college admission requirements.
- 4-year colleges have the most selective requirements.
- Technical and 2-year colleges have less selective requirements.

WHAT ARE COLLEGES LOOKING FOR?

- A challenging class schedule – take Honors, Advanced Placement (AP) and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) classes if they’re available at your high school or learn about additional dual credit options such as Running Start or Tech Prep.
- Electives that match your career and college interests. Examples might include a career and technical education program of study that leads to a career credential or certificate.
- Some colleges may have additional requirements such as taking the SAT or ACT.
- Consider taking academic classes for your elective requirements such as foreign language and/or multiple lab sciences.

REMINDER:
To receive the College Bound Scholarship you must meet the pledge requirements.

JAN: GRADE 9 and 10
3 COLLEGE BOUND SCHOLARSHIP: ALL ABOUT IT

WHAT IS COLLEGE BOUND?

The College Bound Scholarship is a commitment of state financial aid to eligible students and is a four-year scholarship (12 quarters/8 semesters). Students would have applied in middle school before the end of their 8th grade year and commit to meeting the College Bound Pledge in high school to receive the scholarship. College Bound combines on your award letter with other state financial aid to cover tuition (at public college rates), some fees and a small book allowance.

Find other eligibility requirements at collegebound.wa.gov

WHERE CAN I USE IT?

The College Bound Scholarship can be used at over 60 2- and 4-year public and private colleges, universities and technical programs in Washington state.

WHERE CAN I USE IT?

In the 2017-2018 school year the maximum College Bound Scholarship award amounts look like this:

**Public 4-Year Research Colleges**
(for example: University of Washington)
Up to $10,802 per year

**Community and Technical Colleges (CTCs)**
(for example: Spokane Community College)
Up to $4,438 per year

**Public 4-Year Comprehensive Colleges**
(for example: Central Washington University)
Up to $7,379 per year

**Private 4-Year Colleges**
(for example: Pacific Lutheran University)
Up to $11,904 per year

**Private 2-year Colleges**
(for example: Art Institute of Seattle)
Up to $4,467 per year

DOES COVER:

- Average cost of tuition (at public college rates)
- Some college fees
- Small book allowance

DOES NOT COVER:

- Housing
- Meal plan
- Transportation
- Healthcare insurance
- Non-mandatory fees

Other financial aid may assist with these expenses. This list may vary by college.

GOOD TO KNOW:

You must use the College Bound Scholarship within 1 year of high school graduation.

If you have questions about the College Bound Scholarship, please contact the Washington Student Achievement Council at collegebound@wsac.wa.gov 888-535-0747 option 1 or visit collegebound.wa.gov
REMEMBER THAT TIME IN 7TH OR 8TH GRADE
when you signed a pledge to go to college? We haven’t forgotten about you. Here is what you need to know about the pledge for the College Bound Scholarship.

HOW DO I GET IT?
After completing the application in middle school, eligible students must fulfill The College Bound Pledge:

- Graduate from a Washington state high school or homeschool program with at least a 2.0 GPA. If you were in foster care at any point after 7th grade, please visit readysetgrad.org/fostercare to learn more about additional options.

- Have no felony convictions

- Be income eligible, as determined by your college with the information from your FAFSA or WASFA. You can view income requirements by visiting readysetgrad.org/cbs-mfi

- Get accepted to and go to one of the over 60 colleges or universities or programs within one year of graduating high school. Visit readysetgrad.org/eligible-institutions for a complete list of eligible schools.

COLLEGE BOUND OVERVIEW
The College Bound Scholarship is a commitment of state financial aid to eligible students to cover average cost of tuition (at public college rates), some college fees and a small book allowance and is a four-year scholarship (12 quarters/8 semesters). Students apply in middle school before the end of their 8th grade year and commit to meeting the College Bound Pledge in high school to receive the scholarship. College Bound combines on your award letter with other state financial aid to cover tuition (at public college rates), some fees and a small book allowance.

GOOD TO KNOW:
You must use your College Bound Scholarship within 1 year of high school graduation.

GET UPDATES:
Sign up to get updates on the College Bound Scholarship and other ways to get college ready by visiting: bit.ly/2glM56L

If you have questions about the College Bound Scholarship, please contact the Washington Student Achievement Council at collegebound@wsac.wa.gov or 888-535-0747 option 1 or visit collegebound.wa.gov.
WHAT EDUCATION DOES MY DREAM JOB REQUIRE?

You can choose from hundreds of majors and certificates. Typically, most fall into two categories: liberal arts or career-oriented.

LIBERAL ARTS MAJORS

include literature, philosophy, history and languages. These majors are broader and can lead to various jobs that don’t require specific or technical knowledge.

- **English** – editor, marketing executive, writer
- **Foreign language** – foreign service officer, translator, teacher
- **Political science** – community organizer or activist, lawyer, policy analyst
- **Psychology** – market researcher, social worker, mental health counselor

CAREER-ORIENTED MAJORS OR CERTIFICATES

focus on developing particular skills and knowledge for specific careers.

- Marine biology
- Culinary arts
- Paralegal studies
- Engineering
- Dental hygiene
- Cosmetology

DO RESEARCH:

Research different colleges to figure out which ones offer the certification program, major and/or degree that you need for your career. What you choose will impact how much money you earn.

DON’T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO DO YET?

1. **Think about your interests.**
   - List job ideas and interests and then research how they can connect to a job.
   - Visit [careerbridge.wa.gov](http://careerbridge.wa.gov) to explore careers.

2. **Determine how to qualify for different jobs.**
   - Learn job requirements (skills, classes, specific degrees or training, etc.)
   - Talk to a career counselor, mentor or family member.

3. **Get experience.**
   - Volunteer, get an internship or job shadow.

Individuals with a college degree earn $1 million more over their lifetime compared to those with only a high school diploma. (Khan Academy, 2014).
4 PAYING FOR COLLEGE: WAYS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

College costs are different at different schools. Each college estimates the Cost of Attendance (COA) by adding together some or all of the below expenses:

- **Tuition**
- **Fees**
- **Room and board**
- **Transportation**
- **Books and supplies**
- **Other living expenses**

HOW DO I PAY FOR IT?

The cost of college can be overwhelming, but there are many different resources to help you pay for college. People often use various sources of financial aid to pay for college in addition to what they may have saved or earn from their job. Financial Aid resources include any grant or scholarship, loan, or work study offered to help you meet your college expenses.

TYPES OF FINANCIAL AID:

- **Scholarships** – Money awarded to students based on academic or other achievements to help pay for education expenses. Scholarships generally do not have to be repaid.
- **Grants** – A form of gift aid, usually based on financial need. A grant does not need to be repaid, unless, for example, you withdraw from a school and owe a refund.
- **Work Study** – A financial aid program (federal or state) that allows a student to work on-campus or with approved off-campus employers to earn money to pay for college expenses.
- **Loans** – Money you can borrow and repay over time, with interest added in most cases.

HOW DO I QUALIFY?

**Financial Aid**
- In order to be considered for financial aid, you need to complete the FAFSA or WASFA your senior year and every year while in college.
- Each college determines financial aid eligibility for federal, state and institutional types of aid based on awarding policies at that campus.

**Scholarships**
- There are thousands of scholarships that can help you pay for college. Different scholarships have different application requirements. Most scholarships require that you complete the FAFSA or WASFA.

KEEP IN MIND:

Knowing the different types of financial aid is only the first step. You may not need to take out financial aid to cover the full cost of attendance.

APR: GRADES 9 and 10
DEC: GRADE 11